



Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA) – 23 February, 2017

Overview

Scattered convective showers will remain in the forecast this evening through Friday afternoon under a prevailing northwest flow on the back side of this storm system with periods of snow and blowing snow over the higher terrain. Conditions will slowly improve Friday afternoon as drier air works into the mid and upper levels by Friday evening. Some patchy fog or low stratus is possible Friday night into early Saturday morning in the wake of the newly fallen precipitation and exiting storm system. Saturday will start off dry with a mid and high level cloud deck and dry low levels by sunrise through early afternoon. Some moisture will increase Saturday afternoon ahead of the next quick moving system that will impact the area Saturday evening into Sunday. Some convective showers may develop over the higher terrain Saturday afternoon but confidence is low, thinking the better moisture will hold off until Saturday evening. Conditions improve with most precipitation coming to an end by late Friday afternoon into the evening. Mid and high level cloud cover will hang around into Saturday, with clouds increasing and lowering late Saturday evening ahead of another storm system set to impact the area on Sunday.

Local Weather Hazards for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)
[Winter Weather Advisory](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.027&lon=-108.02>

This Afternoon: Snow showers likely. Areas of blowing snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 20. Breezy, with a west wind around 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Tonight: Snow showers likely. Areas of blowing snow. Cloudy, with a low around 6. Wind chill values as low as -10. West northwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Friday: Snow showers likely, mainly before 8am. Patchy blowing snow before 8am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 16. Wind chill values as low as -10. West northwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow showers before 11pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 4. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of snow showers after 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 18. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Snow showers likely, mainly after 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 9. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 22.

Sunday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 10.

Monday: Snow likely, mainly after 11am. Areas of blowing snow after 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 23.

Monday Night: Snow likely, mainly before 11pm. Areas of blowing snow before 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 13.

Tuesday: A chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 21.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 7.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 24.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 10.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 30.

Local Weather Hazards for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.905&lon=-107.72>

This Afternoon: Snow showers likely. Widespread blowing snow. Cloudy, with a high

near 12. Wind chill values as low as -20. Breezy, with a west wind around 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. Total daytime snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Tonight: Snow showers likely, mainly before 7pm. Widespread blowing snow before 7pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around -3. Wind chill values as low as -25. Breezy, with a west wind 20 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Friday: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy and cold, with a high near 6. Wind chill values as low as -25. Breezy, with a west wind 20 to 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. New snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of snow showers, mainly before 11pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around -4. Wind chill values as low as -25. West southwest wind around 15 mph.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of snow showers, mainly after 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 12. Breezy, with a west southwest wind 15 to 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Snow showers likely, mainly after 11pm. Widespread blowing snow, mainly between 11pm and 3am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 5. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Sunday: Snow likely, mainly before 11am. Areas of blowing snow before 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 15. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Sunday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 5.

Monday: Snow likely. Widespread blowing snow. Cloudy, with a high near 16. Breezy.

Monday Night: Snow likely. Widespread blowing snow. Cloudy, with a low around 8. Breezy.

Tuesday: A chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 14. Breezy.

Tuesday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 1. Breezy.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 17.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 5.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 25.

Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

KGJT 232333Z 2400/2424 33015G23KT P6SM VCSH BKN070 OVC100
FM240400 07009KT P6SM BKN100
FM241000 32006KT P6SM BKN090
FM242000 30010KT P6SM SCT070=

Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport

KCOS 232330Z 2400/2424 36014G24KT P6SM VCSH SCT040 BKN090
FM240400 35012KT P6SM BKN040
FM241400 03008KT P6SM SCT040 BKN090

FM242000 12012KT P6SM VCSH SCT020 OVC040=

Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport

KAPA 232341Z 2400/2424 01016G24KT 2SM -SN BR SCT004 BKN009 OVC020
TEMPO 2400/2401 1/2SM -SN FZFG BKN004
FM240200 01014KT 3SM -SN BR SCT004 BKN012 OVC020
TEMPO 2402/2405 1SM -SN BR BKN004
FM240600 36010KT 4SM -SHSN BR BKN005
FM241400 34009KT P6SM VCSH SCT005 BKN015
FM242100 04010KT P6SM SCT012 BKN040=

Discussion

Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:

Thursday Night into Friday morning: CIGS of 2000 to 4000 ft AGL this evening (Thursday evening) with periods of obscuration in snow showers. Cloud bases lower to mountain top after midnight through about 8 am Friday with obscured bases in snow.

Friday: 1000 to 2000 ft AGL by Friday morning with around 3000 ft by Friday afternoon. Friday evening will see dry mid and upper levels with some low level saturation Friday night resulting in fog or low stratus at the mid slopes.

Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:

Thursday Night into Friday morning: CIGS of 2000 to 4000 ft AGL this evening (Thursday evening) with periods of obscuration in snow showers. Cloud bases lower to mountain top after midnight through about 8 am Friday with obscured bases in snow.

Friday: Fully saturated until 5 pm Friday with periods of convective snow showers, until we see dry mid and upper levels with some low level saturation Friday night resulting in fog or low stratus among the peaks and mid slopes.

Current PIREPS: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/airep/plot?type=turb&ion=SW>

Current SITREPS: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/sigmet>

Current radar:

<http://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=GJX&product=NCR&overlay=11101111&loop=yes>

Current satellite: <http://www.weather.gov/satellite?image=ir#ir>

Hourly weather graphics for the Grand Mesa:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.0326&lon=-108.0245&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

Hourly weather graphics for Senator Beck:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.9247&lon=-107.7179&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

For official pilot briefings, call 1-800-WX-BRIEF

For Further Information

- Contact National Weather Service operations 24 hours a day at 970-256-9463 (unlisted)
- For specific support of emergency response incidents, request a spot forecast by contacting the NWS forecast office by phone or online.
- Online spot forecast request available at:
<http://www.weather.gov/spot/monitor/?lat=39.0293452169889&lon=-109.20392753906285&z=7>

Forecaster: Matthew Aleksa

